PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO: The stress of the question was on teaching of the subject in our institutions. I would like to know whether any university has taken it up.

SHRI L. P. SHAHI: Jyotish is being taught in some of the universities, and Sampoornanand Sanskrit Vishwa Vidyalaya, Varanasi is one; Kameshwar Singh Darbhanga Sanskrit Vishwa Vidyalaya Darbhanga is another.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

UGC scales for teaching staff of medical Colleges

*402. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that teaching staff of Medical Colleges in different States is eligible to get University Grants Commission's pay scales;

(b) if so, whether any instructions have been issued to State Governments to accept the demands of teaching staff working in different medical colleges in this regard; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The State Governments lay down the pay structure of their employees including teaching staff of medical colleges keeping in view their financial resources and other connected factors. The Central Government have no scheme in this regard.

Tata committee's recommendations to privalise AI and IA

*403 SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tata Committee's recommendations to privatise Air India and Indian Airlines to improve their operational efficiency and international competitiveness have since been examined; and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken by Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) and (b) To develop a well integrated long-term perspective plan for the transport sector the Planning Commission has set up a Steering Committee for Transport Planning. For providing inputs to the Steering Committee, a Planning Group on Civil Aviation headed by Shri J. R. D. Tata was also set up. The findings and recommendations of this Group, including those relating to Equity participation by staff and others are under consideration of the Steering Committee for Transport Planning.

The report of the Steering Committee for Transport Planning has not been received by the Government.

डिग्रियों का नौकरियों से अलग किया जाना

*405. श्री रशीद मसूद : क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने डिग्रियों को नौकरियों से अलग करने की योजना को क्रियान्वित करने का पहले ही निर्णय कर लिया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्योरा क्या है ; और

(ग) इस योजना के क्रियान्वयन में विलंब होने के क्या कारण हैं ?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय में शिक्षा और संस्कृति विभागों में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एल० पी० शाही) : (क) और (ख) राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा नीति, 1986 में चुनिन्दा क्षेत्रों में नौकरियों से डिग्री अलग करने के सम्बन्ध में शुरूआत किए जाने की परिकल्पना की गई है । तथापि, इस प्रस्ताव के कार्यान्वयन की योजना को अभी अन्तिम रूप नहीं दिया गया है ।

(ग) इस प्रस्ताव के कार्यान्वयन के लिए पर्याप्त प्रारंभिक कार्य करने की जरूरत है। कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय (कार्मिक तथा प्रशिक्षण विभाग) ने उन पदों का पता लगाने के लिए विभिन्न नौकरियों से संबंधित कार्यों का विश्लेषण करना शुरू कर दिया है जिनके लिए विश्वविद्यालय डिग्री की अपेक्षा को अलग किया जा सकता है। इस बीच शिक्षा विभाग ने राष्ट्रीय परीक्षण सेवा (एन.टी.एस.) स्थापित करने की कार्रवाई भी शुरू कर दी है । यह सेवा विशिष्ट नौकरियों के लिए स्वैच्छिक आधार पर उम्मीदवारों की योग्यता में क्षमता और दक्षता प्रमाणित करेगी । स्वायत्त संगठन के रूप में राष्ट्रीय परीक्षण सेवा (एन. टी. एस.) स्थापित करना सिद्धांत रूप में स्वीकार किया गया है। इस संबध में आगे की कार्रवाई की जा रही है ।

Ill effect for potassium Iodate used for Iodisation of salt

*409. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that potassium iodate used for iodisation of salt is poisorous and unsuitable for human consumptions;

(b) whether it is also a fact that compulsory consumption of iodised salt by people who do not need iodine supplementation is going to have ill-effect on their health;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the sale of normal salt without iodine is being banned in Delhi; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor and how the people who do not need iodine supplementation are to meet their requirements of normal salt without iodine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No, Sir. Salt iodisation by potassium iodate is totally safe in concentrations used for salt fortification and is suitable under the climatic conditions prevailing in our country.

(b) No, Sir. The level of iodisation of salt has been prescribed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 taking into account acceptable levels of iodine in-take even by normally healthy individuals.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The Delhi Administration has not yet banned the sale of non-iodised salt. However, in view of the high incidence of goitre as revealed in the surveys conducted by the Directorate General of Health Services and the Institute of Nuclear Modicines and Allied Sciences, Delhi, the Delhi Administration has been advised to ban the sale of non-iodised salt.

Impact of hikes in railway frieght on coal prices

@*409-A. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made about the cumulative impact of the proposed hikes in the railway freight on the prices of coal for consumers in different parts of the country; and

(b) what is the likely increase in the cost of power generation as a result thereof?

@Previously Starred Question 370 transferred from the 21st March, 1988.